

# A real perfin has shown up on a faked Schermack!

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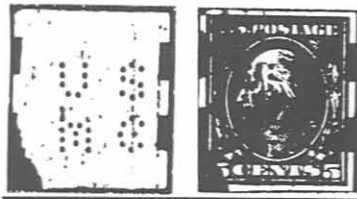
**T**he 5c Washington Schermack logo perfin with the U-82 logo of the United Shoe Machinery Company, shown here, recently came into my possession. There is enough wrong with this stamp—excluding the logo perfin—to warrant calling it a prime example of amateur fraud. The stamp margins are too small, the separation slots are in the wrong position, and the distance between the slots is inaccurate.

The *Scott Specialized Catalog of U.S. Stamps* lists perfin code holes on the 1¢ through 4¢ denominations of the Schermack Type III issues. It can be reasoned that a 5¢ coil *might* exist with code holes or with a logo perfin, although one has never been reported. Perhaps some enterprising soul hoped to be the first.

The counterfeiter apparently just grabbed the first perfinned 5¢ issue he could find and started making it look like a Schermack.

Since the 5¢ rate was used for overseas mailings, it is unlikely that companies would make bulk mailings to foreign destinations—and equally unlikely that a 5¢ logo Schermack would exist unless it was produced as a philatelic favor.

Fortunately, the person doing the counterfeiting was inept enough to leave ample evidence of his fraud.



A somewhat inept counterfeiter did a pretty poor job of faking this Schermack perfin. The perfin is fine, but the Schermack is poorly faked.